

Palestinians to open S. Lebanon road

BEIRUT (R) — Palestinian fighters, in a gesture of peace to the Shi'ite Amal militia, said Saturday they would withdraw from a vital highway serving a cluster of villages in South Lebanon. They said the move was a response to Amal's lifting of a siege on two Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut Wednesday but Amal promptly dismissed it as inadequate unless the fighters also pulled out from nearby fortified positions. A local Palestinian coalition said in a statement that barriers on the Iqlim Al Toffah road from the port of Sidon would be lifted Sunday. The road was taken over by fighters in October 1986. Haitham Jumaa, a senior Amal official, told Reuters the fighters should also withdraw from all the villages they had captured east of Sidon. "otherwise their move would be meaningless." Amal has maintained a partial siege of Rashidiyyeh refugee camp near the southern town of Tyre since saying this would be lifted together with the blockades of Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps in Beirut, to honour Palestinian protests in the Israeli-occupied territories.

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Cabinet approves draft laws, charters

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet held a regular session Saturday and discussed and approved a number of draft laws and charters, including a charter for awqaf and Islamic affairs which grants the Awqaf Council the authority to allow certain societies to run mosques and form committees for building mosques and collecting donations for this purpose. The charter also regulates pilgrimage affairs. The Cabinet approved a law covering the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC). Under the law, the ACC is brought under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and the minister of agriculture assumes the post of ACC chairman. The Cabinet also approved a charter that grants the Greater Amman Municipality enhanced power over public works projects.

Hamami: Jordan, Egypt seek collective Arab stand

"CAIRO (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador in Cairo said Saturday that the recent visit to Jordan of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his meeting with His Majesty King Hussein were within the framework of continuing coordination and consultation between the two leaders to achieve Arab solidarity and to crystallise a unified Arab stand. Ambassador Hossam Hamami described Mubarak's recent Gulf tour as "message to the all that the Arab World is one nation." The ambassador, in an interview with Cairo Television, said the current Arab uprising in the occupied territories stresses the need for achieving a peaceful and just settlement in the region through an international peace conference. "Israel will not succeed in imposing its fait accompli policy and will not be able to repress the Arab uprising because it is based on genuine reasons," Hamami said.

Fayez to head team to APU talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will be taking part in the meetings of the 18th session of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) scheduled to open in Tunis Monday. Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez, who is also APU president, will head the Jordanian delegation to the session. Fayez, in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that during its four-day meetings, the union will study topics such as the role of Arab parliamentarians in achieving Arab national goals.

Baccouche arrives here tomorrow

AMMAN (Petra) — Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche is due here Monday for a two-day visit to Jordan. His Majesty King Hussein is expected to meet Baccouche. During his visit the Tunisian premier will also hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on the latest developments in the Arab scene and bilateral relations.

Iraqi leader receives Kuwaiti message

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein received a message Saturday from the emir of Kuwait concerning the "strong relations between the two brotherly countries," the Iraqi News Agency said. It gave no details of the communication from Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait) send envoys to Iran, page 2).

Austria probes arms report

VIENNA (R) — Austria said Saturday it was investigating whether a shipment of guns to South Africa via Israel violated Austrian laws on arms exports. An Interior Ministry statement said 85 packages of Czechoslovak-made handguns weighing about 2.5 tonnes were transported by truck from Vienna to the provincial city of Graz. Shipping company papers indicated that 35 of the packages and 300 times were subsequently flown by Israel's El Al airlines from Tel Aviv to Johannesburg last November, it added.

Nazareth stages huge rally in support of Palestinian revolt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Thousands of Israeli Arabs staged a massive rally in support of their Palestinian brethren in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Saturday, and demanded an end to Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

Protests were reported in the West Bank, and in Arab Jerusalem the first curfew in 20 years of occupation remained in force. Palestinian reports said about 15 Arab protesters were injured in beatings or rubber bullets, and two more wounded by army gunfire.

In Nazareth, some 30,000 Arabs from villages throughout Israel gathered to protest Israeli policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Israeli army get out!" many of the protesters chanted as they marched down the town's main road. "We want a Palestinian state."

The protesters carried signs bordered in black which bore the names of the Palestinians killed in seven weeks of violence in the occupied lands.

Hundreds of extra police stood by but avoided interfering in the march and a subsequent rally.

A one-day strike by most of Israel's 750,000 Arabs last month

turned violent in many areas, including Nazareth. It shocked many Israelis, who had come to view Israeli Arabs as the representatives of Palestinians in the territories and well-integrated into Israeli society.

Darawshe quits Labour

The marchers cheered wildly when a prominent Arab member of parliament, Mohammad Darawshe, announced he was resigning from the Labour party in protest over Israeli military policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"My resignation" is a protest against the iron-fist policy that (the defence minister, Yitzhak) Rabin, with the support of Labour, has carried out," Darawshe told the crowd.

"I say yes, yes, yes to negotiations with the PLO, yes to a Palestinian state, and yes to a return to the 1967 borders," he said.

(Continued on page 4)

Kibi opens Tunis talks on W. Bank and

Gaza with call for Security Council action

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibi called Saturday on the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to find a solution to the Palestinian problem.

He also described the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as "heroes who have roused the world's esteem and admiration."

Kibi was speaking at a special session of Arab foreign ministers called to discuss the ongoing Palestinian revolt in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The meeting began with a moment of silence for Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Kibi said the five permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France — should express their determination to carry out U.N. resolutions aimed at bringing about peace in the Middle East and settling the Palestinian problem.

Kibi accused Israel of "violating international law and of committing acts considered by the international community as contrary to the ethical principles on which its existence is based."

He said there was a bond between the Palestinians in the occupied territories and all Arabs who had been battling to end Israeli occupation.

Kibi said the revolt clearly demonstrated that Israeli propaganda was "absurd when it says there is no Palestinian problem" or that "Palestine is a land without people."

He called on Arab countries to pay homage to the Palestinians in the occupied territory by giving them moral and material support.

The meeting of the foreign ministers and representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is expected to end Sunday.

The PLO was expected to call on Egypt to break relations with the Jewish state.

Arab League sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AP Libya planned to present a hardline resolution calling for a common Arab strategy against Israel and recommending a meeting of Arab defence ministers.

They said Libya intended to announce a pledge of \$150 million to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The head of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, Giorgio Giacomelli, was due to address the opening session of the foreign ministers' meeting, Arab League officials said.

Giacomelli, whose organisation provides aid to Palestinians in the occupied territories, met Kibi here before the session.

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan Saturday called for Arab political and material support for the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza to enhance its strength, power and momentum.

During the Arab League's council meeting, held here at foreign minister level, Foreign Minister Taha Al Masri expressed Jordan's total support for the uprising and the Kingdom's faith in the justice of the Arab cause and the country's belief that the struggle against the occupiers should be fully developed.

Masri proposed that the Arab League and its members move on three different fronts: The United Nations, World and European governments and on the occupied Arab territories front, in the form of support for the inhabitants of the territories and their uprising.

(Continued on page 4)

"It's political dynamite on both sides... violence will continue until a political proposal emerges"

Analysts see uprising as new phase in Palestinian struggle

Following is the first part of a two-part article. The second part will be published in tomorrow's issue.

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prominent political analysts perceive the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza as a new stage in the Arab-Israeli conflict and which may lead to an international peace conference depending on how the Arabs and international community react. They expect the first impact of the uprising to be felt on the Israeli political scene by the widening polarisation between the Labour and Likud parties, and predict that the balance will probably be tipped in favour of Likud. However, if this uprising does not achieve its aims, the analysts predict, the next round will be more violent and bloodier.

Over the past 20 years of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, most Israelis saw these territories as part of "Eretz Israel" (greater Israel), and this presumption was reinforced with the signing of the 1979 Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel, leading columnist Tareq Masarweh said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Masarweh says the weaknesses of Arab states further encouraged the continuation of the Israelis' assumption that Arab land was their land.

Israel itself was convinced and it also convinced the outside world that it could dominate the Palestinian people forever, but the Palestinian uprising that began Dec. 9 has been proving

otherwise, says Palestine National Council (PNC) member Assad Abdul Rahman, director general of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.

For starters it destroyed the notion that the Arabs in the occupied territories were a silent majority accepting the conditions they were living under, and showed that there are limits to power, no matter how brutal its users are. "The abject conditions prompted this uprising, and will make future uprising inevitable," said Abdul Rahman, who also writes extensively on Palestinian affairs.

The chairman of the World Affairs Council, Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, professor of political science at the University of Jordan, considers the past seven weeks of violence more than an uprising: "It is a political, social, economic, nationalist revolt against the repulsive conditions the Palestinians are subjected to. It is the first genuine revolt organised by the Palestinians on their land since 1948."

The Palestinians in the occupied territories took matters into their own hands because "they were not encouraged by the way the Palestinian problem was being handled," said the head of the Jerusalem centre for development studies, Abdul Jawad Saleh, deposed mayor of the West Bank city of Al-Bireh. He said the Palestinian leadership and inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip were committed to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the pan-Arab programme of an international conference. Saleh said the concerted effort exerted by the Palestinians in the occupied territories had reduced factionalism.

Mohammad Milhem, a member of the PLO Executive Commit-

Jordan backs Soviet call for U.N. meeting

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan Saturday welcomed and voiced support for a Soviet proposal to hold a United Nations Security Council meeting at foreign minister level to pave the way for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

A statement issued by an official spokesman and carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the government had studied the contents of a message that the Soviet Union sent to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar calling for convening the meeting. "The Jordanian government welcomes the Soviet proposal, which is in harmony with the collective Arab stand agreed upon during the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman last

November," the spokesman was quoted as saying by Petra. The Soviet proposal, added the spokesman, which was sent by Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze and released Thursday, "comes at a time when the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories are keeping up their uprising and is considered by Jordan as an effective and serious step giving momentum to peace efforts."

The

government hopes that the Soviet proposal will receive favourable response from the members of the Security Council and win the support of the international community, the spokesman said.

The Soviet foreign minister was quoted Saturday as saying by a Kuwaiti newspaper that he had called on the Security Council to take "urgent, very active and

dynamic" action over the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories.

In an interview with Al Qahar conducted in Madrid, Shevardnadze described the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as "painful... and escalating in danger and tension."

He said that at the instructions of his government, he has sent an urgent message to Perez de Cuellar "suggesting that the Security Council hold meetings at the level of foreign ministers of the permanent (member) countries as soon as possible to discuss the dangerous situation in the occupied Arab territories."

"The situation in the Middle East has become so complicated that it necessitates an urgent, very active and dynamic move by the Security Council, the result of which should not be confined to

issuing statements and condemnations," Shevardnadze told the paper.

Asked about a visit to Moscow by an Iraqi diplomatic team and an earlier trip to Israel by a Soviet delegation, Shevardnadze said: "There are contacts between technical employees of the (Soviet) Foreign Ministry and their Israeli counterparts to discuss purely technical and consular affairs."

He added: "I don't see any reason for giving any other description to these contacts."

Shevardnadze denied that the Iran-Iraq war has become a secondary issue for the Soviet Union since the outbreak of Palestinian protests in the Israeli-occupied territories on Dec. 8.

"The Iran-Iraq war still is at

(Continued on page 4)

Iraqi army general killed in crash

King condoles Iraqi president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday telephoned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein offering his condolences over the death of Gen. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al Hadithi and his accompanying officers.

He said the helicopter carrying Fifth Army Corps Commander Major-General Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al Hadithi crashed late Friday in the hills near the town of Shuian because of a technical fault.

The Iraqi news agency (INA) said the helicopter crashed at 5.20 (1420 GMT) Friday, and the accident was "caused by a technical fault."

The agency said later that Al Hadithi's remains and bodies of his companions were recovered Saturday.

Tehran Radio claimed that the helicopter was shot down by Re-

Azz issues new warning

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq

Rifa'i warned that Iran was preparing for an offensive against Iraq and called anew on the U.N.

Security Council to impose sanctions on Iran to enforce a council resolution to end the Iran-Iraq war, INA reported.

Azz warned that "any delay in

punishing the aggressive Iranian regime would directly weaken the Security Council... and would help in continuing the threat against the security and stability in the Gulf and the world as well."

Iran and Iraq meanwhile stepped up attacks on shipping in a 24-hour blitz in which at least four tankers had been hit by early Saturday.

Iranian speedboats struck a Danish vessel in the southern Gulf and Iraqi warplanes struck a supertanker off the Iran coast in a pre-dawn raid Saturday.

Iranian gunboats struck the Danish tanker, the 33,650-tonne refined products carrier Torm Roma, as it sailed into the Torm Roma, as it sailed into the Gulf en route for the Saudi Port of Juhail Friday night.

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Goulding predicts more bloodshed until Palestinian issue addressed

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A U.N. official who visited Israel's occupied territories says bloodshed may not end there until Palestinians become convinced that something is being done on their behalf.

"Something has been unleashed," Undersecretary-General Marraekh Goulding said Friday. "And it's probably not going to go away unless the Palestinians can see that the fundamental problem is being addressed."

Goulding recently returned from a fact-finding mission to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, where Palestinians have been revolting for six weeks. At least 39 have been shot to death in an Israeli crackdown.

He said he talked to more than 200 Palestinians as he gathered information for a report to the Security Council, and that all of them rejected occupation.

"There is certainly a feeling of

mobilisation and unity that strikes me," Goulding said in an interview. "In talking to people of all ages and classes there was a striking unanimity in what they said."

Goulding's trip contributed to a report to the Security Council on what can be done to protect the 1.5 million Palestinians living in the territories occupied by Israel since the 1967 Middle East war.

The report, issued Friday, says peace talks ending the Arab-Israeli conflict are the only real answer.

Goulding said the unrest stems from a "cumulative process of discontent."

"The occupation has become

more and more unacceptable to the people in the territories because of the hopelessness of it," he said. "Years pass and nothing seems to be happening."

Without the prospect of a Palestinian homeland, the situation will probably not improve, Goulding said.

The report to the Security Council calls for an international peace conference under U.N. auspices, something Israel has so far rejected.

"I think that the developments in the occupied territories have been very troubled to Israelis," Goulding said. "I hope that as a result, perhaps more people will see more clearly than they have in the last few years the imperative need to get a political settlement."

The document sets out a range of Palestinian complaints, including human rights violations, eco-

nomic discrimination and squalid living conditions. All are denied by Israel, the report notes.

Goulding was critical of the way Israel has handled the crisis.

"My own view is that less harsh behaviour by the Israelis would probably lead to a reduction in the tension and the violence. But that view is diametrically opposed by the government of Israel," he said.

American officials "are really scratching their heads and trying to see what's possible" but there is not much hope that a breakthrough in stalled regional peace efforts could happen any time soon, U.S. government sources said Friday.

While insisting that "we are continually looking for ways to advance the (Middle East) peace process," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said "there are currently no plans or decisions concerning a new initiative or a special envoy."

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is due to arrive in Washington Tuesday for three days.

And, as announced by the White House Friday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who had private talks with Reagan at the White House last November, will come for a full-scale state visit in mid-March.

Both the Mubarak and Shamir trips were well in the works before Palestinian protests erupted last Dec. 9 causing the worst unrest since Israel took control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip 20 years ago.

But the violence, which has resulted in the deaths of at least 39 Palestinians, "has placed the peace process higher on the (U.S.) agenda," one U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

Mubarak, just back from what this official called a very successful, high-profile tour of the Gulf states, will discuss many issues during his Washington talks but a primary focus will be Middle East peace moves and the Iran-Iraq war, U.S. officials said.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater, announcing Shamir's visit, told reporters: "It is fair to say that the problems of the West Bank and Gaza have given new urgency to this."

Shamir's spokesman in Tel Aviv denied the visit was connected to unrest in the occupied lands, although he agreed the Israeli leader and Reagan would discuss peace moves.

International pressure for a political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict has increased in recent weeks as the Palestinian protests against Israeli rule continued.

Washington, which gives Israel \$3 billion annually, joined other countries in criticising Israel's use of live ammunition against Palestinians protesting against Israeli rule.

The lobby group issued a report that added, "the result of this absence of real debate is that U.S. Middle East policy is not subject to the checks and balances of public scrutiny, nor are the candidates and office holders held accountable for their policies regarding the Middle East."

The group singled out Republican presidential candidate Pete Du Pont, whose position on the Middle East was contained in a two-paragraph statement giving unconditional support to Israel.

Zogby said Robertson was ready to lead the nation — bottom line." Zogby said.

Zogby said Robertson's beliefs are dangerous.

New Belgian minehunter heads for Gulf

BRUSSELS (R) — A new Belgian minehunter left for the Gulf Saturday to take over Belgium's patrolling duties in the waterway, port authorities in Zeebrugge said.

The Crocus, one of a new generation of minehunters jointly built by France, Belgium and The Netherlands, was due to arrive in the Gulf about March 1.

It has a 48-member crew and will replace the Bovesse which has been on Gulf patrol since November.

Another minesweeper, the Breydel, which has been working with the Bovesse, is now on its return voyage since Belgium decided to scale down its forces in the Gulf.

Defence Ministry sources say

the Belgians have failed to detect any mines in the region where they have been working with other Western navies to help keep shipping lanes clear.

Meanwhile the Italian government approved a decree law Friday raising money to keep its fleet in the Gulf, after an earlier funding measure was thrown out of parliament.

Defence Minister Valerio Zanone presented a cabinet meeting with the decree, which will cover the costs of a naval force sent to the Gulf in September to protect Italian merchant shipping.

Late Wednesday a funding decree fell after members of the coalition voted with the opposition in a secret ballot.

The Italian fleet of three frigates, three minesweepers, and two support vessels, is due shortly to be cut back because of a reduced risk from mines in the Gulf.

Zanone said last week a minesweeper and support vessel would return home soon and a frigate might be pulled out in March.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou made the statement earlier this week on the occasion of the visit here of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat.

"The outrageous and unacceptable intervention of the military forces of Israel in the occupied territories caused an international condemnation. Even the U.S. has taken position in the Security Council condemning the occupation and the unacceptable methods of torturing of a whole population," Papandreou said.

In reality, the legislative and executive bodies owe their legitimacy to their reliance on and authority of the supreme Islamic leader. The latter is like a soul within the body of the system," he said.

Diplomatic analysts said the ideological differences in the leadership had blocked key government decisions.

Khamenei said Friday that Western naval units patrolling the Gulf were gradually pulling out and that the United States would "eventually" follow suit.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khamenei as saying: "Western countries which were America's protectors (in the Gulf) have begun withdrawing from the region quietly, one after the other."

The president's comments, reported by Tehran Radio monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, followed a ruling by Khomeini two weeks ago banning reformist sections of the clerical leadership.

The ruling flew in the face of the traditional conservative wing of the Iranian leadership which

seeks to limit the government's role in the economy.

Khamenei said he accepted Khomeini's views as "inviolable principles of Islam" and Friday repeated his acceptance of the ayatollah's authority.

Khamenei, whose narrow interpretation of the powers of the state was rejected by Khomeini earlier this month, said at Friday prayers:

"The supreme Islamic leader, by relying on his judgment and reasoning or on religious evidence, deems a certain issue to be in the best interest of society and acts on it and this is God's command and this command is obligatory for everyone to obey."

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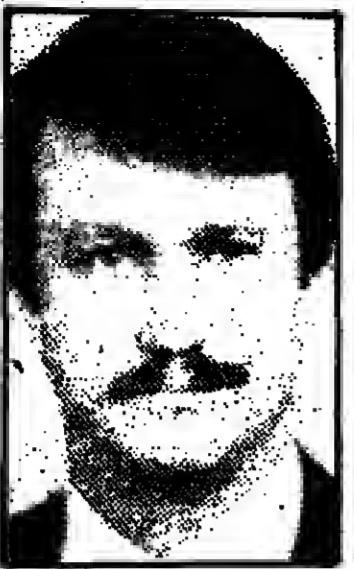
Khamenei said Friday that Western naval units patrolling the Gulf were gradually pulling out and that the United States would "eventually" follow suit.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khamenei as saying: "Western countries which were America's protectors (in the Gulf) have begun withdrawing from the region quietly, one after the other."

Home news

Newly-elected board of bank employees union to tackle question of dismissals

By Elias Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer



AMMAN — The new board of the General Union of Bank, Insurance and Accounting Employees will focus attention on the question of dismissals and forced resignations of bank employees, and the cancellation of their fringe benefits, according to the former board chairman Haidar Rashid who was reelected to the board in Friday's union elections.

Rashid told the Jordan Times that issues such as health insurance and annual increments will also be on the agenda of the new board, which he expected to be formally instituted shortly.

The elections brought nine union members, including Rashid, to the new board. The former chairman won 802 votes out of a total of 1,236 votes counted late Friday night. The other winners are: Abdullah Khalil (780 votes), Mousa Shakhsir (745), Mohammad Qasem (695), Samara Al Khatab (661), Ahmad Abbadi (678), Jamal Ayyad (685), Hakam Jarra (709) and Yousef Hourani (635).

A total of 34 candidates ran for the board and three contested for the board chairmanship. Union sources said that Rashid was bound to be reelected chairman since he won the highest number of votes in Friday's election.

Rashid said that the board will

Jordan (CBJ) to intervene to stop the forced resignation of bank employees. Reports have said that local banks were forced to terminate the services of some of their employees in order to reduce expenses, as the banks' volume of operations and profits had declined.

The CBJ last year received petitions from the General Union of Bank, Insurance and Accounting Employees to intervene and prevent the laying-off of 32 employees from the British Bank of the Middle East and the Grindlays Bank Ltd., both of which are operating in Jordan. The lay-offs were made in June and July of 1987, and the union subsequently held a general assembly meeting which condemned the moves describing them as arbitrary measures and as a dangerous development threatening the future of bank and insurance company employees throughout the country.

Rashid said, then that the local banks were not deterred from laying-off employees due to the fact that existing labour laws do not require the employers to justify dismissals. The legislation, which was adopted nearly 25 years ago, does not provide for a minimum protection of workers' rights and interests, Rashid noted.

The general assembly meeting sent a memorandum to the CBJ urging it to intervene and put an end to the summary dismissals.

The murder occurred at the

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) has recommended that \$100,000 be allocated for studies on agricultural projects in the occupied West Bank and that a specialised laboratory be set up in Jordan, the secretary general of the Ministry of Agriculture, Salem Al Lawzi, announced Saturday.

Lawzi was speaking upon his return from an AOAD meeting which concluded in Khartoum

Jordan to pay JD 4.8m to W. Bank, Gaza teachers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan announced Saturday that it would pay allowances to all teachers in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip employed after the 1967 war when the territories were occupied by Israel.

An official statement by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that at least 10,300 teachers would benefit from allowances which will total JD 4.8 million in 1988.

Last year, extra allowances to teachers in the occupied territories were paid through the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, in cooperation with the

Cairo-Amman Bank branch in Nablus.

According to Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Duddin, these allowances amounted to 50 per cent of their basic salaries.

Ministry sources said that the beneficiaries are all teachers at the government schools in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Upon announcing the arrangement for allowances last May, the minister said that the sums would be granted in addition to a JD 10 million government allocation for urgent economic and social projects in the West Bank.

Hamzeh meets with WHO expert

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh Saturday discussed with a World Health Organisation (WHO) expert cooperation and the exchange of expertise between the ministry and the Zagreb-based International Institute for Planning and Management of Primary Health Care Services in Yugoslavia.

WHO expert Zelimir Jaksic voiced the institute's readiness to receive a number of ministry doc-

tors at its annual nine-week training course.

Jaksic noted the possibility of holding specialised courses in Jordan, in cooperation with the institute, in order to turn out lecturers in general medicine.

Hamzeh expressed his appreciation of the institute's training courses and their significant role in improving the performance of the doctors at ministry health centres.

Man murders sister

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 36-year-old man, identified by police only as A.M.A., Saturday shot and killed his 29-year-old sister.

The murder occurred at the

Hay Nazzal area of Amman, and the woman's body was taken to Al Bashir Hospital for autopsy, according to a police source. The source could not provide the motive for the murder, but said A.M.A. was being questioned by police.

In another development, a 24-year-old woman from Hasa, south Jordan, died of gunshot wounds after being shot by her husband. The man was apprehended and investigations are underway.

Lower House endorses death sentence for narcotics dealers

By Nermene Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament Saturday endorsed a draft law carrying the death sentence for drug dealers with records of previous similar offences, for convicted narcotics dealers who enlist the services of juveniles and for dealers who sell drugs to juveniles.

According to the draft law, the death sentence also applies to drug enforcement personnel who are convicted of drug-related crimes.

Yousef Al Azem (Maan)

also called for the banning of alcohol,

stressing that he supported the "positive step undertaken by the government by introducing the death sentence for offences drastically affecting the well-being of the Jordanian family and the society at large."

Azem was referring to a

law endorsed by the Lower House on Jan. 12 which stipulated that those convicted of raping girls under 15 years of age would be executed.

Suleiman Al Quda (Ajloun),

chairman of the House Legal Committee, said the question of banning alcohol in Jordan could not be debated within the context of discussions on the narcotics law: "I agree with you that alcohol is a taboo in Islamic law, but the committee cannot discuss a law that is not related to narcotics as specified in the draft law."

He said the decision by the

Legal Committee to approve the

law was based on similar laws

adopted by most Arab countries

and the recommendations of the

various conferences and seminars

on drugs. He pointed to Arab agreements on drug control passed in 1961, an amendment law

passed in 1972 and the Narcotics

Law of 1971, in addition to basic

principles on drug enforcement

adopted in international organisations.

The House also discussed the

1982 Tanam and Landlord Law

before returning it to the Legal Committee for further study. The law, introduced to the Lower House by the government, drew mixed reactions from the deputies, who claimed that it contained many loopholes.

Rizk Batsineh (Irbid)

told the

House that "loopholes which existed in the draft law were the direct reason behind so many court cases."

But he added that his feeling is that these loopholes had been "covered by the legal committee," and that there was "a pressing need for it to be passed quickly to help courts solve pending cases."

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai

told the

deputies that although the

Legal Committee had been able to clarify many of the ambiguities in the law, there still remained "some points which needed further clarification."

Rifai added that the

law "should not be cause for dispute between landlord and tenant, but should be a law that serves all citizens — a combination of both."

An amendment to the Jordan

Academy of Arabic Law was

passed by the Lower House. The

House referred the amendment to the Archaeological Law of 1988 to the Legal Committee for further study, and the Post Office and Post Savings Fund Law of 1988 to the Financial Committee.

The Lower House also referred

to the Administrative Committee

the proposal for the formation of

a ministerial committee to study

the situation of archaeological

sites in Karak, as well as a proposal to upgrade the district of Ajloun to a governorate.

dates

Friday.

The AOAD allocation, Lawzi said, for studies on the West Bank, was among resolutions adopted by the AOAD's council which discussed subjects related to food security in the Arab World and affiliated schemes.

The Khartoum meeting also

decided to go ahead with a study

on the adverse effects of food

shortages in the Arab World as

requested by the Arab Economic

and Social Council and issued an

appeal to Arab governments to support the work of an Arab ministerial council charged with conducting studies on the environment and means of halting the encroachment of deserts on arable land, Lawzi said.

The AOAD also recom-

mended that Arab states give more backing to current studies on agricultural marketing, a pan-Arab water strategy and on

means for the improvement of

livestock and cattle in the Arab

World, he said.

The AOAD meeting, Lawzi added, urged Arab countries to organise periodic seminars and conferences designed to promote agricultural marketing, rationalisation of food consumption and development of irrigation systems.

Lawzi was accompanied to the

Khartoum meeting by two senior

officials of the Ministry of Agricul-

ture.

dates

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Why take a chance?

THE snapshot of United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report to the U.N. Security Council was his call for the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East to be attended by all concerned parties. This call, which came in the wake of the week-long fact-finding visit to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip by U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding, coincided with the call by the Soviet Union for a meeting of the Security Council at foreign minister level, to discuss how to accelerate the convening of the international peace conference. The European Community is also supportive of such a conference; and so is practically every regional group in the world, including the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference countries. And last but not least, all the Arab parties concerned advocate the conference idea.

The odd men out are Israel and the United States. The U.S. may be on the verge of supporting the proposed conference, especially in the wake of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. The projected official trip to Washington by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir should be seen in this light, as the conference idea appears to be gaining support, despite Shamir's open rejection of it. With Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres ostensibly solidly behind the idea, and threatening to make it the primary issue in the anticipated national elections in Israel, the international community, so it seems, can count on "half of Israel," to back the conference.

We now look to the U.N. Security Council to prod such a conference, especially in the wake of the report of Mr. Perez de Cuellar, provided it does not repeat its performance on the Gulf situation. The optimism generated by the unanimous adoption of Resolution 598 dissipated quickly, giving rise to speculation that that resolution was put on the backburner. The patience of the Palestinian people living under occupation has been stretched to the limit, and it is clear that the situation in the West Bank and Gaza cannot withstand more procrastination.

Much water has to pass under the bridge of the proposed conference before a durable and just resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict materializes. And if the process does not begin soon, one can be sure that a bloodier uprising in the occupied territories is in the offing. And the next round could engulf the whole region. Why take the chance, when there is a mechanism to launch Arab-Israeli peace negotiations?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Double talk

ARIEL Sharon, an extremist Israeli cabinet minister, has rejected outright Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's initiative for ending the dangerous situation in the occupied Arab territories. He did so without even learning of the full text of the Egyptian president's initiative; and the Israeli Radio was careful to broadcast his statement, thus reversing an earlier government statement that Israel was ready to enter negotiations on the question. The official Israeli comment and Sharon's statement are contradictory, because whereas Tel Aviv offers to negotiate to show that it really seeks peace, Sharon's statement presents the situation as an internal security problem which should be handled by the Israeli government alone. In fact, both statements are meant to deceive world public opinion because neither Sharon nor his prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, accepts the idea of an international conference to solve the issue, and both are determined to put down by force the current uprising in the occupied Arab lands. If Israel wants peace, it should first accept the idea of the proposed international conference which would lead to an Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory and result in the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their own homeland. Any thing short of that remains mere propaganda designed for deceiving world public opinion and stalling for time. The Palestinians and the Arab people at large have experienced all Israeli means of deception and empty words about a settlement and peace; and they realize that Sharon's rejection of Mubarak's initiative, represents Israel's official stand; and therefore, the struggle is bound to continue until justice is done.

Al Dustour: Much depends on the Arabs

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report to the Security Council came as a fruit of his own endeavours and the efforts and the sacrifices of the Arab people under Israeli rule. The uprising and Israel's repressive measures against the protesters have prompted de Cuellar and the world public opinion to make moves for bringing justice to the Palestinians and ending the violence in their homeland. De Cuellar's report which calls for action to be taken to defuse the dangerous situation, was echoed by a call on the part of the Soviet Union which proposed that the Security Council hold a session to discuss the convening of an international conference on the Middle East. Action to end the unsatisfactory situation in the region is also represented in a visit by West Germany's foreign minister to the occupied Palestinian land today. All these efforts and the German minister's visit follow closely the violent events in the occupied territory and Israel's measures and inhuman practices against the Palestinian people. It remains to be said that the Arab League, which holds a meeting at the foreign ministers level today, should take prompt and effective action, and embark on positive steps to persuade Washington of the need for holding an international conference so that a just solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict can be found. Much depends on the Arabs themselves if they are determined to find a just solution for the Palestine problem.

Sawt Al Shaab: Uprising attracts world attention

IT is clear that the uprising in the occupied Arab territories has aroused the feelings of people around the world and prompted world-wide condemnation of Israel's atrocities. It is clear from the recent developments in the United Nations that the world community has become increasingly concerned over the Palestinian problem and is serious in finding means for ending the dangerous situation and restoring peace in the Middle East region. U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report to the Security Council based on a tour in the region by his envoy Marrack Goulding diagnosed the situation in the region, and concluded that the problem could only be solved through an international peace conference to be held under U.N. auspices. De Cuellar's report echoed earlier calls by King Hussein on the need for a speedy solution for the problem of the Palestinian people through an international conference. The King in his recent meetings with Middle East visitors and throughout his contacts world-wide has underlined this view and called for permanent peace.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Disinflation quantified, but causes unknown

ACCORDING to the cost of living index, compiled and published monthly by the Department of Statistics, the Jordanian market experienced disinflation, and the purchasing power of the dinar rose for the first year on record. The cost of living index for December 1987 dropped to 130.3 from 132.7 in the same month of 1986, down 1.8 per cent. The monthly average for 1987 was 129.8 against 130.0 in 1986, down 0.2 per cent (1980=100).

We still unpleasantly remember the high inflation of the seventies and early eighties. We definitely appreciate the stability in the value of the dinar. Yet, economists normally think that the ideal situation for a healthy economy is a steady rise of prices at 2 to 3 per cent a year. In this respect, less is not necessarily better.

Inflation is of course detrimental to creditors, depositors, salaried employees, workers and landlords. Disinflation on the other hand is harmful to debtors, borrowers, and those engaged in industry and agriculture.

But why did disinflation take place despite an imported inflation of 3 to 4.5 per cent, a 12 per cent rise in the exchange rates of most foreign currencies (except the dollar) in relation to the dinar and the higher tariff and non-tariff protection measures which must have pushed the prices up.

The imported contents of aggregate supply of goods and services is around 50 per cent, as the national accounts suggest. Therefore, change in currency exchange rates, and protection measures must have caused the prices of foreign imports to rise by 15 per cent. Consequently, the average inflation rate in Jordan should have been 7.5 per cent had the prices of local goods and services remained constant.

Since overall inflation during 1987 was a negative 0.2 per cent, the domestic elements of services must have dropped on average by 15.4 per cent during 1987.

This means that the current moderate disinflation did not only hurt borrowers who are required to pay a real interest rate of 10.5 per cent annually, the highest in the world, it also hurt producers, especially those who make their living by producing and selling products and personal and professional services or let houses and offices.

So what triggered disinflation?

The fiscal policy adopted by the Ministry of Finance could not be responsible. Public expenditure in the budget did not contract and financing by deficit and through borrowing is known to cause inflation not the other way around.

Monetary policy adopted by the Central Bank also could not be held responsible for causing disinflation. The Bank helped stabilize the value of the dinar in dollar terms, which in turn resulted in raising the exchange rate of most other currencies. The Bank also pursued a rather expansionary policy. It furnished commercial banks with additional liquidity and encouraged them to extend more credit to all sectors.

The trade and industrial policy adopted by the Ministry of Industry and Trade could not be held responsible for disinflation either. More protection of local production, prohibition of imports and imposition of excise on local industry should raise the prices not otherwise.

In other words disinflation in Jordan did not happen because of fiscal, monetary, trade or industrial policies but despite them all. The easiest way out of this riddle is, to doubt the official statistics. But we have no reason to support such notion. The methodology was not altered, and the department has no incentive, political or otherwise, to claim unfounded disinflation.

Perhaps the protracted domestic economic recession is responsible. The adjustment of behaviour by the private sector to new circumstances and the readiness of families to reduce their living standards as a precaution against uncertainty could also have a role.

Indigenous leadership steers occupied territories' uprising

By Mary Sedor and Karin Lamb
The Associated Press



OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Arab protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have generated a new underground Palestinian leadership that has set aside factional disputes to coordinate and fuel large-scale anti-Israeli uprising.

It is the first sign of an indigenous Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories since 1980, when Israel outlawed the 16-member National Guidance Committee formed by Palestinians.

Israeli moderates have expressed hope the protests will produce new leaders who can play a role in establishing a dialogue between Arabs and Jews. But Israeli officials insist they will not talk to groups linked to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The protests began Dec. 8.

In days, Palestinians formed an underground steering committee that has extended its influence throughout the occupied territories.

It issues directives that are carried out by scores of grassroots groups.

The committee, calling itself

"The National Leadership for Accelerating the Uprising,"

consists of previously warring PLO factions and Islamic Jihad, a group of Muslim fundamentalists, according to Israeli officials and influential Arab figures. Islamic Jihad is not connected to groups of the same name in Lebanon and elsewhere.

"The committee has the power to ignite the uprising at any time," said Raji Sourani, a Gaza City lawyer close to the committee.

Palestinians say the new leaders who have emerged are solidly pro-PLO.

"They will have to be taken into consideration in peace negotiations, along with the outside leadership of the PLO," said Jamil Massar, a political science professor at Birzeit University in the West Bank.

Sourani said the steering committee not only organizes daily strikes and protests but also is developing long-term strategies on how to fight occupation.

"If you believe this uprising will overthrow the occupation, you are naive," said Sourani, a lawyer who represents Palestinians arrested on security offenses.

"Our confrontation

doesn't end after one month or one year."

Sourani said committee members had been successful in prolonging the uprising because they did not make unrealistic demands on Palestinian residents.

For example, he said, the committee has allowed food shops to open despite a commercial strike to enable Palestinians to replenish their dwindling food stocks.

Palestinian organisers also said the past has been systematically decapitated, said Abdu Hiltermann, a DFLP member in the Service of Man, an Arab-run human rights organisation.

"Until now, people are respecting the instructions, and we want to retain that," Sourani said.

The committee operates in secret, and Palestinians refuse to divulge who belongs to it. Members of the old National Guidance Committee let their names be known. The new committee, which the Jerusalem Post said has six to eight members, issues its orders through word of mouth and leaflets distributed in the territories.

Grass-roots organisers said they follow the broad direction of the instructions but have some leeway.

"What we read in the pamphlets is the outline of the kinds of actions. If they call for a strike in which no cars are allowed on the road, we adhere to that," said Rana Nashashibi, 26, a member of the Union of Palestinian Working Women's Committees.

"But we have the liberty to choose what other action we will take. It's up to us to trigger

the action," she said.

Nashashibi said her group on its own initiative staged protest marches in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem and the West Bank city of Ramallah.

She said it also organised women in West Bank towns and villages to knit sweaters for the about 1,100 Palestinians detained in Israeli prisons as part of the Israeli crackdown.

The women's committee is one of hundreds of grass-roots groups such as trade unions and professional organisations formed with PLO approval in the mid-1970s in an effort to foster indigenous leadership.

At the same time, the National Guidance Committee was formed to deal with Israeli authorities on day-to-day problems of occupation.

Israel outlawed the group, saying it was involved in anti-Israeli activities and incited widespread demonstrations in 1980. Israel deported two of its leaders, deposited others from their jobs as mayors in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and placed others under town arrest.

The Palestinian leadership in

the past has been systematically decapitated, said Abdu Hiltermann, a DFLP member in the Service of Man, an Arab-run human rights organisation.

Army officials denied the charge, saying they only targeted PLO activists hostile to Israel. "If we thought they were true leaders, we would be talking to them," said the senior military official.

Hiltermann said the Palestinian leadership emerging now consists of activists who have risen from the ranks of the grass-roots movements. "These people number in the hundreds. If they deport one, he can be replaced immediately," Hiltermann said.

The military official said all these organisations have been operating in the territories for some time now. The new element is the intensity of cooperation and coordination. They are all pulling in the same direction."

The Jerusalem Post newspaper quoted an unidentified senior security official as saying the army knew the names of the committee members and would disband the group.

"We think this committee will meet the same fate as the National Guidance Committee," the official was quoted as saying.

Nazareth stages massive rally

(Continued from page 1)

The group held its own rally later Saturday in Tel Aviv, which was termed the largest ever Israeli protest against the occupation.

In the city's central Machane Yisrael square, at least 20,000 Israeli leftists carried torch lights and held banners saying: "Two states for two peoples" and "give peace a chance." Strains of John Lennon's "Imagine" mixed with Israeli peace songs from loudspeakers overhead.

Addressing the crowd, group leader Avshalom Vilan recalled how 10 years earlier, the same group held its first rally, calling on Israel to accept the initiative of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat that led to peace between the countries.

"Are we to become South Africa, or the Soviet Union in Afghanistan?" Vilan asked. "Shamir, where are you heading?"

The Palestine Press Service reported that major protests broke out in the Al Amari refugee camp near Ramallah Saturday, and 15 Palestinians were injured by rubber bullets or beatings. The agency said three Arabs were wounded in the town of Halbou near Hebron, one of them with a bullet wound in the head.

Meanwhile, the Israeli mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, sought Saturday to get the curfew in part

of Arab Jerusalem lifted.

Kollek visited religious leaders and residents in the Al Tur neighbourhood on the Mount of Olives, where a curfew was imposed by police Friday under a military order after stone-throwing protesters clashed with Israeli

soldiers.

Kollek's spokeswoman told Reuters: "He objects to the curfew in the city... and is trying to get it lifted. But he has no control over it."

"He is speaking with residents to get them to have their young people identify with Palestinians in the territories in another form, not through throwing stones."

In other incidents Saturday, police fired tear-gas at residents at Shufat refugee camp.

A Reuter photographer reported seeing police open fire with rubber bullets inside the old city of Jerusalem and then force them way into a building.

Druze leaders in the Golani Heights announced a general strike in solidarity with the Nazareth march and said they would collect food and clothing to send to Palestinians living in refugee camps, Israeli Radio said.

Merchants in Arab Jerusalem observed a full commercial strike, while leaflets distributed in the area called on Palestinian policemen working for the Israeli police department to resign.

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Women toil, men enjoy the greater reward

By Ronald Farquhar
Reuter

GENEVA — It's a man's world. Whether in offices or factories or down on the farm, most women need, or choose, to go out to work.

And what they get is still almost always a raw deal, be they New York executives, computer girls in Europe or drudges in the fields of Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Women, goes the Maoist adage, "hold up half the sky."

They do it, say researchers at the Geneva-based International Labour Organisation (ILO), for about two-thirds what men get paid for holding up the other half.

That is a global average. In Western industrial nations, women's pay is now within 10 per cent of men's. But in Communist Eastern Europe, males earn 20 to 30 per cent more for the same job. In the Third World and Japan they can earn twice as much.

Officials and data at the ILO, a U.N. agency, were among sources tapped by Reuter correspondents for a global update on the condition of working women towards the close of the 1980s.

Not only did the survey confirm continued inequality of pay, but women are also more likely to get the sack than men.

Often, says the ILO, that is because they have traditionally done the sort of jobs that are most easily taken over by word-processors, facsimile machines and other new technology.

Or, it may simply be male chauvinism or the fact that women take time off to have babies.

China, following Mao, has a law that all its women should work. There is no such thing there as "Occupation: Housewife."

But, reports the All China Federation of Trade Unions, when recent economic reforms gave managers the power to fire workers in order to boost profit, women were the first to go.

Neither in China, where newspapers say that educated women are arbitrarily refused jobs, nor in the Soviet Union, is ideological stress on equality always translated into practice.

U.S. cigarette companies benefit from hot export markets

By Maggie McNeil
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The cigarettes that health-conscious Americans are no longer smoking are now hit up by growing numbers of nicotine lovers in Japan and other countries where smokers have acquired a taste for American-blend cigarettes.

The U.S. cigarette industry, whose growth has been hurt by a steady decline in American smoking, was boosted by a huge gain in foreign markets, including Taiwan, Greece and South Africa, in the past year.

This was triggered largely by successful U.S. government efforts to ease foreign restrictions on the imports of U.S. cigarettes.

American cigarette exports in 1987 have been preliminarily estimated at record-breaking levels of around 100 billion cigarettes worth \$2 billion, making the United States the world's largest exporter of the controversial product, said tobacco analysts at the U.S. agriculture department.

Japanese consumers especially are smoking American cigarettes at an increasingly rapid pace.

Since the removal last April of trade restrictions on U.S. cigarettes, Japanese imports of U.S. brands have soared to almost 28 billion as of the end of

ernment adviser Mariko Bando. Elsewhere, where the norm is for a woman to have a job and be a mother, too, progress making that easier has been slow.

The ILO said a need for day nurseries is far from being met worldwide. Often, where laws say a firm must open a creche if it hires a specific number of women, it keeps female hirings down.

Particularly in the West, mothers opt for part-time jobs. But part-time pay and terms are often inferior, says the ILO.

Chinese men tend to expect their wives to come home to do the housework. The Soviet press says men do not do enough of it.

Gorbachev said in June more must be done to help working women fulfil "their inherent functions" of mother and wife.

Soviet women get a small allowance for staying at home until a child is 18 months old. There are complaints in some cities about kindergarten space for older children. Granny often helps.

In the Third World, meanwhile, poverty bears hard on women.

In India's villages, home of 80 per cent of its 780 million people, girls of seven or eight begin a life of unremitting, 16 hours a day toil. They do everything except plough — a male preserve.

"They are malnourished, they are social inferiors, they are illiterate," said a senior government official. "They do not see anything outside their own village. Economic pressures are too much for them to think of anything else."

Average life expectancy of Indian women at 51 is a year less than that for men. In the West, women normally live longer.

In Indian cities, women are pushed into unskilled, low-paid work, according to a 1985 government study.

The ILO says roughly two-thirds of all Third World women workers are engaged in agriculture and that their plight has deteriorated because of increasing landlessness — particularly in Latin America — and migration of the men to work in cities.

Those Third World women who also leave the land are apt to end up in low-paid and precarious

jobs, the ILO's 1987 world labour report adds. Many young women in Asia work up to 60 hours a week making cheap electronic goods.

According to the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), nearly three-quarters of African women work on the land. But 90 per cent did so a quarter of a century ago. Encroaching desert and mechanisation wrought the change.

Only about seven per cent of working African women have, however, found jobs in industry, probably because illiteracy is so high. Less than a third of African women can read and write.

By the century's end, says the ECA, 45 per cent of Africans will live in cities. Lack of education will force women into informal work as servants and petty traders — and prostitution.

Wholly different attitudes to women and work prevail in strict Islamic societies such as Saudi Arabia.

It segregates women workers. Only a few jobs, such as teaching and nursing, were open to them until recently.

But some Saudi women now run their own boutiques. Banks have "ladies only" branches with female tellers. The Saudi cable company plans an electronics factory staffed only by women who will communicate with men by television.

Iran's Islamic revolution has had no drastic impact on Iranian working women who still provide most farm labour and fill blue collar jobs and civil service posts.

But female secretaries are not allowed nor, according to the prevailing interpretation of Islam, may women be judges.

The Islamic rulers say a woman is first and foremost a mother but that she may also acquire skills and work — indeed, her contribution is needed as teacher, nurse or doctor. Devout Muslim women do not like to be examined by male physicians.

A popular legal change since the revolution is the option for women civil servants to work part-time for two years after a birth. And the revolution banned men from some jobs, like hairdressing, opening new prospects for women.



While eastern U.S. sleeps, earthquake threat increases

By Donald Smith
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — The monsters underground in the West have brothers.

Everyone knows about the rifts in the Earth's crust beneath the West Coast, such as California's infamous San Andreas fault.

Sometime in the next few decades, one of them might shift violently, causing an earthquake that would turn the ground into mud puddles, break highways, demolish houses and factories, and kill thousands of people.

One explanation is that Eastern geology is older and simpler, with fewer faults in the ground to slow the travel of quake waves. Another theory concerns minute quantities of water in the earth that may inhibit the waves; Eastern rocks are drier.

The potential for extensive destruction in urban areas has received increasing attention lately. The Oct. 1, 1987 tremor in Whittier, Calif., provided fresh evidence of the horrors in store for urban populations hit by quakes.

The Whittier quake, measuring 6.1 on the Richter scale, was the worst to hit southern California in 16 years. It killed seven people and injured more than 100. More than 10,000 buildings were damaged, accounting for an estimated \$177 million in losses.

If the same quake had hit an Eastern city, experts agree, the damage would have been far worse because of the East's geology. Moreover, because of the infrequency of major earthquakes, Easterners generally are less prepared than Westerners.

"Most places in the East don't require seismic hazard protection in their building codes," says David Perkins, a geophysicist at the National Earthquake Centre in Boulder, Colo.

But Perkins and other federal officials report a surge of interest in earthquake protection of structures east of the Rockies, partly as a result of their encouragement.

A state legislator in South Carolina recently launched a campaign to require compliance with regional building codes.

Experts say the same magni-

tude of quake in today's urban America would wreak far wider destruction. "If we ever repeat earthquakes the size of the 1811 and 1812 ones, I expect they would do damage to tall structures as far away as 500 miles," Nuttli says.

Long-distance damage is one of the ways Eastern earthquake differs from Western ones. Scientists know that seismic waves in the East travel farther and pack more destructive punches, but they're not sure why.

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rude in the northeastern United States. The conference will be sponsored by Ketter's centre and the city's Academy of Science.

"We don't want to create a horror story," Ketter says. "That's the main problem: Once you get beyond a certain stage (of disaster forecasting), you turn people off, even though the forecast may be very realistic."

"One of the things they did in California was to talk about a \$60 billion loss and 20,000 deaths due to a major earthquake in Los Angeles. People can't think in those terms. So we have to convince people that there's a serious problem, but not cause them to say, 'Well, I can't do anything about it.'"

Earthquake experts talk in terms of when, not if. "The event (in the East) is rare in comparison with California and Alaska," says Walter Hays of the U.S. Geological Survey. "But it will happen."

Warrior camels wrestle in Turkey

By Fatih Saribas
Reuter

EPHESUS, Turkey — Foam at the mouth was the only sign of emotion shown by the two bull camels as they lumbered across the ancient stadium of Ephesus.

But when a mare on heat was paraded before them, the two veteran warriors fiercely joined battle, egged on by shouts, sticks, drumsbeats and shrill reed pipes.

"When the camels see a female in mating season, they become wild," said Cahit Soke, the 35-year-old owner of camels known as Destroyer and Smiler 1 and Smiler 2.

The bizarre sport of camel-wrestling on Turkey's Aegean coast peaks with the Ephesus festival in January, a big local day out and a growing tourist attraction in the stadium where Greek athletes raced 2,000 years ago.

The high point of the camel-wrestling year chooses no overall winner, but fine Turkish carpets are awarded to the owners of both contestants in each of 38 duels.

"I have been raising camels for 10 years. My wife once asked me if I preferred her or the camels.

At night in nearby Selcuk, belly-dancers entertain tourists and camel owners at local restaurants, dancing on tables to raucous laughter and clapping.

Camel-owners tend to be amateur sportsmen and farmers, since the use of the hairy two-humped bactrians as beasts of burden has nearly died out in Turkey.

The Ephesus festival started in 1982, but camel wrestling in towns, villages and nomad encampments may date back to the arrival of the Turks in Asia Minor nine hundred years ago.

An obscure tradition is kept alive when the festival stops halfway through and the post of aga (lord) of the camel-wrestlers is auctioned off to the highest bidder.

Camels fight sideways from the right or the left, using necks, shoulders, or legs to pile on pressure. Camelmen crouch nearby, separating the beasts when a winner is clear.

The camel's bright saddle strapped over the humps — with bells and a plastic poster advertising the camel's name — all give the sport a colourful atmosphere.

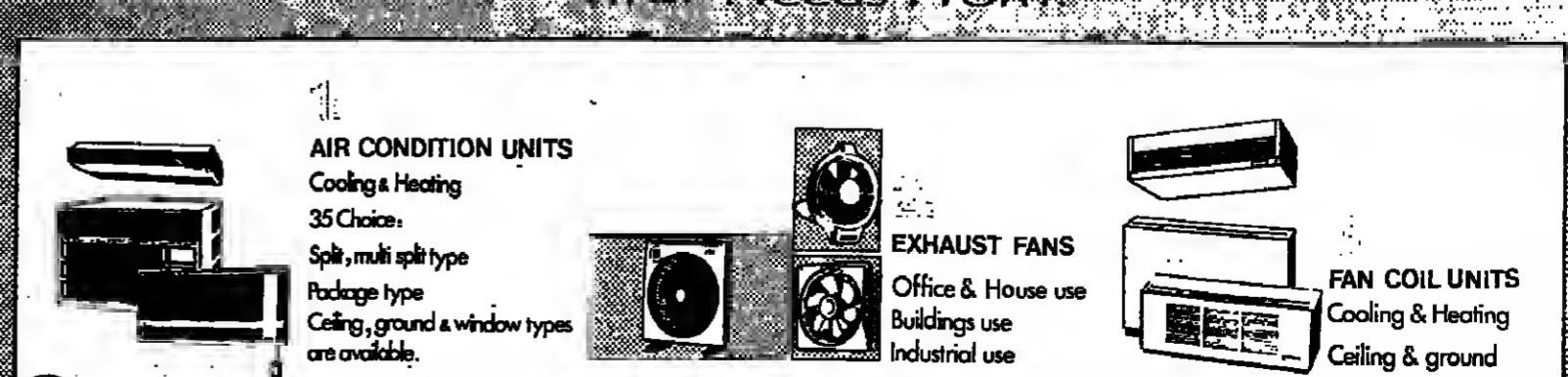
"Some of the wrestling was rigged this year," he shouted. "I will solve all this during my presidency..."

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Tyson pummels Holmes, retains title

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (R) — Mike Tyson, who demolished Larry Holmes Friday night to retain his undisputed world heavyweight title, will next fight fellow-American Tony Tubbs in Tokyo on March 21, Tyson's manager has said.

Tyson himself, showing scant regard for Tubbs, a former World Boxing Association (WBA) champion, said after stopping Holmes in the fourth round: "I'm going to fight somebody in Tokyo."

A Japanese spokesman said the Tubbs fight would be in the Tokyo Dome, where he said he wanted to "show our Japanese hospitality."



Tyson... the reigning king

The fight is part of the seven-figure \$26.5 million package Tyson recently signed with an American cable television network.

Bill Cayton, Tyson's co-manager, said he would try to sign Michael Spinks for a fight against the champion. But if that did not happen, Tyson would fight Britain's Frank Bruno at Wembley Stadium in London.

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Tyson had edge

Tyson said he had an edge in his fight Friday because the former champion telegraphed his left in his losing bid to take Tyson's heavyweight crown.

"I always knew when the left was coming," said Tyson, who pounded the 38-year-old Holmes to the canvas twice in the fourth round before knocking him out with a tremendous right hand just six seconds before the round ended.

"I could see the punch. I'm elusive and hard to hit, but Holmes was telegraphing his punches," said Tyson who raised his record to 33-0, by stopping his 29th opponent within the distance.

It would have made little difference if Holmes had not telegraphed his left hand punch. It was as ancient as the telegraph.

The few times Holmes, fighting for the first time in 21 months, scored with the left, it had the effect of a flyswatter.

Holmes' right was not any better. At one point in the third round — probably the former champion's best — Tyson merely shook his head and smiled after Holmes hit him with a right hand to the head, which the crowd thought had done some damage.

The only damage Holmes did on Friday night was to the reputation of the New Jersey Boxing Commission, which sanctioned the hopelessly mismatched fight.

Many ringsiders felt Holmes, who was handed the worst beating of his 51-fight career, narrowly missed serious injury.

He was a shell of the fighter who ruled the heavyweight ranks for seven and $\frac{1}{2}$ years and now has a career record of 48-3.

Except for one brief stint of dancing on his toes in the fourth round, Holmes was flatfooted and awkward in his attempts to avoid Tyson's onslaught.

Tyson literally never took a step backward throughout the fight, unless the referee ordered it.

Holmes showed that he indeed is ready to spend a great deal more time with his grandchild.

Tyson's role was nearly secondary to all of the attention paid to

Holmes... shattered dreams

but I want him to know his reign is over."

Laughing loser

At the news conference after the fight, Holmes delivered what many who saw the fight thought was a bad joke.

Sugar Ray Leonard, here as a commentator for television, asked Holmes if he would retire.

Holmes, with a big grin, said: "Yes. This is it until someone offers me a lot of money and then I'll come out." He and Leonard laughed.

Holmes, who was paid \$3.1 million for the fight, added that "I've got nothing to be ashamed of. I'm going to laugh all the way to the Lafayette Trust Bank."

Aussie aims to end Swedish domination of tennis

MELBOURNE (Agencies) — Wimbledon champion Pat Cash attempts to end four years of Swedish domination of the Australian Open championship Sunday and become the first home player for 12 years to win the men's title.

Cash stormed into the final against former title-holder Mats Wilander of Sweden by beating world number one Ivan Lendl over five sets in Friday's semifinals.

The 22-year-old from Melbourne, aiming to be the first Australian since Mark Edmond-

son in 1976 to win the title, has shown the patience of a baseliner, mixed with the raw aggression that characterised his Wimbledon win, on the new rebound-acrylic surface here.

"All these people keep telling me I can't play on hardcourts. I wonder what they are feeling now," Cash said after his defeat of top-seeded Lendl.

Wilander won the Australian title in 1983 and 1984 before surrendering it to fellow-Swede Stefan Edberg in 1985.

Edberg went on to defend the title by defeating Cash in last

year's final but was beaten by Wilander in this year's semifinals.

A date change from December to January meant no Australian Open was held in 1986.

Cash and Wilander have clashed seven times, with the Australian holding a 4-3 advantage.

At their latest meeting Wilander proved the stronger with a straight sets win in the second round of the Masters Championship in New York.

Wilander, the third seed here, lost to Lendl in the final of the U.S. Open in September.

"It's very important for me to win here," he said. "It is not worth it to just keep on getting to the final. To lose another one would be very hard."

No champagne for prudent Graf

West German Steffi Graf, who on Saturday continued her meteoric rise to the top of women's tennis with a win in the final of the Australian Open, has now collected over \$2 million in prize money.

In a career which has spanned just five years, Graf has secured

Johnson continues winning ways in Ottawa

OTTAWA (AP) — Canadian Ben Johnson came up a few millimetres short in his try for a world 55-metre record after waiting 90 minutes for the track to be altered at the international indoor meet.

Event organiser Pat Reid went for the off-distance Friday night because it is one of the few world sprint marks not held by the Toronto star and the sprints were billed as the featured events of the meet.

But the tight confines of the civic centre allow only for a natural 50-metre sprint, so the run-

ners and more than 9,000 fans had to wait while workmen removed one end of the oval track to make room for the 55-metre start.

"I was a little tired from the extended warmup," Johnson said after winning the final in 6.01 second — one-tenth off the mark held by Lee McRae of the United States. Johnson's mark reduced his own time from the 6.04 set in 1985.

But it was a pair of women visitors who gave the crowd their world marks midway through the

competition when Doina Melinte of Romania ran away with the 1,500 in four minutes, 9.96 seconds and American Maryanne Torrelas won the mile race walk in 6:39.18.

Torrelas erased the 6:38.1 clocking st by Giuliana Salce of Italy in 1985 and Melinte lowered the 4:14.70 time set here last year by countrywoman Maritza Puica, who finished a distant second Friday.

Both world marks will carry the notation that they were set on a class track with more than 11 laps to the mile.

The men's 400-metre race went to American Ian Morris in 50.61, the 800 to Duendane Kwiatos of Burundi in 1:54.07, the 1,500 to Mark Olesen of Canada in 3:46.9 and the 3,000 to Canadian Paul Williams in 8:09.7.

American Delissa Walton-Floyd won the women's 400-metre race in 2:05.89, American Steve Glander won the pole vault, with a mark of 17 feet 4½ inches (5.29 m), and countryman Jim Howard leaped 7-6 (6.8 m) to win the high jump.

Both world marks will carry the notation that they were set on a class track with more than 11 laps to the mile.

NBA roundup

Bullets outgun Warriors and Bulls trounce Suns

NEW YORK (AP) — Larry Bird scored 14 of his 27 points in the third quarter and the Boston Celtics beat Atlanta 124-106 to move ahead of the Hawks in the battle for the Eastern Conference's best record.

Bird's performance in Boston helped the Celts turn a 64-54 halftime lead into a 95-75 advantage after three quarters. The victory was Boston's sixth straight at home by at least 16 points.

The Celtics, who have won their last seven NBA games and 17 of 19, improved their record to 28-10. The Hawks fell to 28-11.

Bullets 115, Warriors 91

Terry Catledge and Bernard King scored 20 points apiece and Manute Bol blocked 10 shots, leading the Washington Bullets to a 115-91 victory over the Golden State Warriors.

The Bullets, after an 8-19 start, are 6-2 under new coach Wes Unseld. The last five victories have come by an average margin

of 22.8 points. In the game in Landover, Maryland, Catledge scored 10 points in the first period as Washington opened a 32-22 lead.

Bulls 118, Suns 108

Michael Jordan scored 42 points and combined with Rory Sparrow for Chicago's first 22 points of the third quarter as the Bulls broke open a close game and defeated the Phoenix Suns 118-108.

Chicago, leading by 15 points midway through the final quarter in Chicago, had the margin cut to 111-108 with 42 seconds left as Phoenix's Armon Gilliam and Eddie Johnson scored 10 points apiece down the stretch. Johnson led the Suns with 23 points.

Pacers 113, Nets 104

Vern Fleming's 26 points led four Indiana players with more than 20 as the Indiana Pacers kept the New Jersey Nets winless

in the road this season with a 113-104 victory.

In the game in Indianapolis, Chuck Person had 23 points and Steve Stipanovich and Reggie Miller 21 each as the Pacers snapped a three-game losing streak — their longest of the season — and dropped New Jersey to 0-15 on the road.

Mavericks 110, Clippers 87

Mark Aguirre scored 19 points and Roy Tarpley added 18 points and 19 rebounds, leading the Dallas Mavericks over the Los Angeles Clippers, 110-87.

The Midwest Division-leading Mavericks' 24-11 start is their best in club history. The Clippers, who have dropped 12 straight on the road, lost for the 15th time in their last 17 games.

In the game in Dallas, Dallas saw a 15-point second-quarter lead sliced to one with seven minutes left in the third quarter. But a Tarpley dunk triggered a 10-2 run.

Lakers 113, Knicks 112

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 12 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter as the Los Angeles Lakers dealt the New York Knicks their 12th straight road defeat with a 113-112 victory marred by a bench-clearing brawl that re-

sulted in the ejection of three players.

Abdul-Jabbar kept the Knicks at bay with four consecutive sky hooks in a span of 2:41, and Myclall Thompson's three-point play with 51 seconds left made the score 110-103 with 51 seconds to play.

In the game in Inglewood, California, Rick Carlisle hit a 3-point shot at the buzzer to bring the Knicks within one.

Jazz 119, Spurs 106

Karl Malone had 26 points and 17 rebounds and the Utah Jazz outscored San Antonio 35-15 in the fourth quarter to beat the Spurs 119-106.

In the game in Salt Lake City, the Spurs, who got 24 points from Leon Wood and 22 from Frank Brickowski, led 89-84 early in the fourth quarter before the Jazz scored 14 consecutive points for a nine-point lead with 6:33 remaining.

Trail Blazers 126, Nuggets 106

Clyde Drexler scored 22 of his 39 points in the first half and Jerome Kersey finished with 24 points and 13 rebounds, leading Portland to a 126-106 victory over the Denver Nuggets.

In the game in Portland, Oregon, the score was tied 44-44 in the second quarter.



Michael Jordan in action

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Jordanian bank launches new scheme for expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Bank is making arrangements to help Jordanian expatriates own homes in Jordan once they return here for permanent residence, according to Housing Bank Board Chairman Zubair Khouri.

Khouri said in a statement published in Al Ra'i newspaper that the new arrangements, currently being conducted in cooperation with Oman Bank in Dubai/United Arab Emirates (UAE), were in line with the Jordanian government's policy for providing facilities for Jordanian citizens and strengthening the expatriates' ties with their home country.

Agreement has been tentatively reached for Oman Bank to finance 33 per cent of the total cost of housing for expatriates

now employed in the UAE, while the Housing Bank will cover the balance of the cost, Khouri noted.

He said that beneficiaries would not be required to make a downpayment for the ownership of their housing units.

Khouri also disclosed that the Housing Bank will organise a housing exhibition in Dubai in the second half of next month to help market housing units and offer expatriates the chance to acquaint themselves with the types of units available in the Kingdom.

A number of real estate organisations operating in the country, he said, will be invited to take part in the exhibition.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan's fruit exports decline

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's exports of fruit last month amounted to 7665 tonnes against 14315 tonnes in the same month of 1986, registering a decline by 6650 tonnes, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Ministry of Agriculture. The bulletin, which did not give a reason for the decline, said that lemon, orange, and grapefruit were exported to Arab Gulf and European countries. The bulletin also noted that Jordan last month imported 1656 tonnes of apple against 1328 tonnes in December 1986 and that no amounts of chestnut were imported during the past month, whereas Jordan's imports of this commodity amounted to 193 tonnes in December 1986.

Jordan to attend IFAD meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) governing council which will open in Rome on Jan. 25. During the four-day meetings, participants will discuss international developments affecting the fund's activities, its achievements over the past 10 years. Also to be discussed are the fund's proposed 1988 budget and a special programme for African countries hit by drought and desertification and other topics. Minister of Planning Tamer Kanaan, Jordan's governor at the IFAD governing council, and Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi, the deputy governor, will represent Jordan at the meetings.

Jordan to take part in industrial talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Planning will be taking part in a conference on industrial development in the Middle East to be held in London on Feb. 1. Planning Ministry Secretary-General Ziyad Fariz will represent Jordan at the five-day conference.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Fischer Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is an unusually good day for the development of new ideas with startling success. Put your finest qualities out front and get fantastic approval from your friends and family, but don't let your well-earned head be down in your well-filled hand.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan a short trip you've been thinking about. This could be very beneficial to you, but count the cost well and be sure to travel light.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can easily handle any arrangement with your mate which has been troubling you for some time. Think before you act.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can put your best foot forward with your public matters as concerned. Reach a long-awaited agreement with your co-workers.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A dissatisfied co-worker may seem to be grumbling about nothing, but this person's perception is actually quite good.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are highly creative now and should take advantage of this ability. You can get good results from a calculated risk if you move quickly.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Invite your superiors into your home

THE Daily Crossword



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

6 "Jane —"	7 Secular	8 Burning sign	9 Rate	10 "Unclipped"	11 Conserve	12 Level	13 Transmited	14 Author Boris	15 Star over	21 canto	25 Call into count	26 Honshu city	27 Relative	28 Scored	29 Maley Isthmus	30 Land	31 Captured	32 Ages and	33 "Ae"	34 Flasks	35 W.W town	36 "Kun Khan"	37 He wrote	38 "Kish Light"	39 "Ulysses" poet																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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Yugoslavia confirms KAL bombers stayed in Belgrade

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav security officials confirmed Saturday that a couple suspected of blowing up a South Korean airliner last November stayed in Belgrade for five days shortly before the incident.

The news agency Tanjug, quoting a statement from the security services, said police in South Korea, with which Communist, non-aligned Yugoslavia has no diplomatic relations, had asked Yugoslavia through Interpol to provide information.

The KAL Boeing 707 with 115 people on board disappeared on Nov. 29 while flying from Baghdad to Seoul.

Kim Hyon-Hui, a 26-year-old who said she was a North Korean agent, confessed at a televised news conference in Seoul last week that she helped plant a bomb on the plane. Her companion committed suicide on being arrested in Bahrain.

The Yugoslav authorities said the couple arrived here by plane from Vienna on Nov. 23 and left

on a flight for Baghdad on Nov. 28, where investigators say they joined the doomed KAL flight.

Tanjug said they stayed at the Belgrade Metropol Hotel, confirming earlier reports by eyewitnesses.

It said they used the forged Japanese passports they had when they were detained in Bahrain after the plane disappeared.

"Since there was no suspicion that these were terrorists, there was neither any preliminary warning in this respect and during their stay in Belgrade no surveillance measures were applied on them," Tanjug said.

"While boarding the plane in Belgrade, regular checks of passengers and luggage were performed by detection devices used

by the airport enterprise Beograd.

"The control of personal luggage was additionally carried out by the Iraqi plane crew immediately before the passengers entered the plane," Tanjug said.

It said that it had been ascertained from ticket coupons that the couple had no other luggage.

The North Korean embassy in Belgrade has denied suggestions in the Japanese press that the couple may have obtained explosives from the embassy.

Yugoslav television last week quoted police as saying it was impossible that the woman could have smuggled a bomb on to the flight from Belgrade.

Yugoslavia has been accused several times by Western states in recent years of allowing passage to suspected guerrillas.

American Secretary of State George Shultz bitterly attacked Yugoslavia two years ago for allowing Abu Nnass, the suspected mastermind of the Achille Lauro cruise liner hijacking, to escape through its territory.

The eastern town of Batticaloa, a military spokesman said.

Many members of rival groups have been killed by the Tigers in its effort to establish itself as the dominant separatist organisation.

They have called for a general strike in the north and east Tuesday, the anniversary of India's Republic Day, to protest against an offensive by Indian soldiers sent to the island as a peace-keeping force.

Tamil rebels kill Sri Lankan official

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's chief civil servant in the north western district of Mannar was shot dead by suspected Tamil gunmen, officials said Saturday.

They said M.M. Makbool, the government agent in Mannar, was returning home Friday evening when four gunmen ambushed his car, led him into the jungle and killed him.

The officials said Makbool had been threatened by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

(LTTE) guerrilla group for defying its call to close offices in the north and east to protest against a military offensive by Indian troops.

"Those who never opposed Somoza are opposing our revolution," Bayardo Arce, a member of the Sandinistas' nine-man directorate, told a government rally.

"They paint themselves as valiant opponents of the revolution when they are no more than puppets of U.S. interests," Arce said in a speech honouring at least 40 Nicaraguans killed when Somoza's infamous National Guard opened fire on a protest march 20 years ago.

Opposition leaders said several people were slightly injured in Friday's violence.

In Washington, President Reagan, fighting hard for new aid to contra rebels, painted a black portrait of the Sandinista government.

"In a speech honouring at least 40 Nicaraguans killed when Somoza's infamous National Guard opened fire on a protest march 20 years ago,

"Failure to support the contras could lead to a Central America engulfed in turmoil and send masses of refugees heading for the United States," he said.

"It is by no means difficult to visualise a situation in which hundreds of thousands of Central Americans seek to escape violence and instability by streaming toward the American southwest," Reagan said.

The attack was carried out less than a day after four separatist gunmen with AK-47 assault rifles killed 10 Hindus doing their morning yoga exercises in a public park.

Conservatives who had insisted that Waldheim speak at the March 11 anniversary hailed the move, which bolsters the president's position prior to next month's report by historians who investigated his controversial wartime record.

The announcement that Waldheim would speak at his official residence in Hofburg Palace came just five hours after word that he would not address a parliamentary event recalling the Anschluss.

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Four other people, including a Hindu political leader and two Sikhs, were killed in separate incidents Friday, police said.

About 100 people have been killed in Punjab so far this month — more than double the number of those killed in January last year in violence caused by extremists fighting for a separate Sikh home called "Khalistan," the land of the pure.

More than 1,230 people were killed last year, compared with 640 in 1986.

Police have not identified any group responsible for Saturday's attack nor indicated whether the attacks were carried out by the same extremist groups.

The Press Trust of India said an organisation called the Khalistan Liberation Force had claimed responsibility for the attack in Baroda, home-town of former Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala.

Authorities in the north Indian states of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, and the Delhi capital territory were placed on maximum alert Friday night.

Road-blocks were set up on roads into the capital. Police fear extremists would increase violence ahead of India's National Day celebrations Tuesday.

It was East's turn to star. He smoothly allowed the jack of diamonds to hold the trick! Had declarer chosen to repeat the finesse, he would have been defeated by the subsequent diamond ruff and force in hearts. Although South did continue with the 10, he rose with the ace when West produced another low diamond. He then rendered a trick to the king of diamonds.

East did as well as he could by continuing with a heart. Had declarer ruffed he might have lost control of the hand. Instead, he simply discarded his last diamond, and the defenders were helpless.

East tried his last heart, but declarer simply discarded a club from hand and ruffed on the table. It was then a simple matter to draw trumps and claim the rest of the tricks.

Watching a skilled declarer bathe the expert defenders is a rare pleasure. This hand will reward careful study.

We are not thrilled with South's decision to jump to a five-card suit. We would have preferred a rebid of two diamonds. His partner's reaction to that would have dictated the course of the auction. Here, North would have raised to show a maximum no trump response with good dis-

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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THE TECHNIQUE OF A MASTER

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ J 4

▼ I A 5

♦ A Q 7 5

* Q 6 4 2

WEST

EAST

♦ 8 3

♦ 7 6 5 2

▼ Q J A 5 2

♦ 8 2

♦ K 3 2

* J 10 8 3

♦ 9 7

SOUTH

♦ A K Q 10 9

▼ 4

♦ J 10 2 4

* A K 5

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♦ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

mond support. Note that six diamonds depends almost solely on a successful trump finesse.

What South might have lacked in bidding prowess he compensated for in the play. West attacked with the queen of hearts and continued the suit for declarer to ruff. Since trumps were likely to break 4-2, declarer realised he could not afford to draw trumps before setting up his diamonds, so at trick three he ran the jack of diamonds.

The attack was carried out less than a day after four separatist gunmen with AK-47 assault rifles killed 10 Hindus doing their morning yoga exercises in a public park.

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Nicaraguan opposition rally turns violent

WASHINGTON (R) — Foes and supporters of Nicaragua's left-wing government have pelted each other with stones at a rally, and several people were injured.

A senior government official, meanwhile, blasted government opposition groups as "puppets of U.S. interests" and called for support of the revolution that ousted U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

Witnesses said the violence apparently erupted after opposition youths tried to remove government banners hanging outside offices of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinator (CDN), a coalition of 14 right-wing political parties and business groups.

Inside over 100 relatives of political prisoners were meeting CDN members in a protest rally watched by scores of journalists. Two U.S. embassy officials were present at a CDN news conference earlier, but left before the trouble began.

Young Sandinistas who had put up the banners clashed with CDN youths in a running street battle that about 30 minutes before police arrived.

A high-ranking official later accused government opposition groups of working alongside U.S.-backed rebels.

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